



CIVIL AIR PATROL

CAPTIONS

Northshore Composite Squadron
PCR-WA-068

March-April-May 2006

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Bothell-based, Northshore Squadron Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Color Guard Team won first place in the Washington Wing Cadet Competition held at Camp Murray in Tacoma on March 10th and 11th 2006.

The Cadet Competition holds both Color Guard and Drill Team events and included teams from across the state. It was a two-day affair with events ranging from a written exam on leadership & aerospace to a timed mile run, uniform inspection, indoor drill, quiz bowl and outdoor presentation which includes the protocols of raising the American flag.



2006 WA Wing Color Guard Champions

The win continues a tradition of successful Color Guard teams from the Northshore squadron. This year however, it was perhaps even more satisfying as the 2006 team included all rookies (first year of Color Guard).

As with Northshore teams of the past, the 2006 Wing Champions have already begun to "give back" by presenting the colors at a number of community events with even more scheduled over the summer.

The Northshore team is made up of 5 local areas teens, Color Guard Commander, Master Sergeant Molly Heath; Senior Airman Cyle Schultz; Airman Travis Blades; Airman 1st Class Jeff Powers and alternate, Airman Molly Houghton. (see related story on pages 4 & 5)

Potential stories to look for in the next issue.....

- * Pacific Region Cadet Competition Results
- * First Aid/CPR Course Update
- * Flight Line Marshalling Course
- * Rocket Launch
- * Encampment Updates
- * Arlington Fly-In

Squadron Visits Microsoft

Microsoft's Flight Simulator Division invited the Northshore Squadron to tour their studio in Redmond Washington this winter to see how flight simulation software programs are built.

Shawn Firminger, Microsoft's Manager of the Flight Simulator studio tells a compelling story of a young man who on attending the first day of military flight school was able to fly without ever being in an actual airplane cockpit. How could this be he was asked?, "Simple, I learned how to fly with Microsoft's Flight Simulator".

Ever since this and similar stories have surfaced around the country, Microsoft's Aces Studio, the division that creates

Flight Simulator, Combat Flight Simulator and Train Simulator entertainment franchises has been committed to supporting youth interested in flying.

This is not only smart business to secure potential customers when they are young but there is an altruistic reason as well.

Firminger, a father of three, sees the power of providing young people with tools (continued on page 3)



Northshore Cadets at Microsoft

Tis the Season for ELT's



What is it about bright, sunny weather in the Pacific Northwest that tends to spur the insatiable drive of pilots to venture out into the wild blue yonder. They take to the skies in their small, hollow tubes held together by strings and at times, end up making some rather hard landings. While I myself being a ground-pounder, will never understand this passion, I do appreciate the fact that those landings often set off their ELT's.

This past March has been very busy with ELT traffic. I along with some other squadron and CAP members have been dispatched on 4 searches in that timeframe alone. Out of all four searches, Lt Colonel Tom Peterson, Capt Jensen, Capt Chris Bruner and I finished with an amazing total of three finds.

One particular search led us to Harvey Field, a small airport about 12 miles outside of our quiet town of Woodinville. At about 11:00 on a cold March evening, we were called out to this airstrip and briefed of the situation – one ELT going off somewhere in the vicinity. Unfortunately, this

was looking more and more like a needle in a haystack search. However, with some mentoring from Col. Peterson, we quickly narrowed down the size of the haystack and located the aircraft with the activated ELT. The airport Manager fumbled through his keys as we sat in wait, finally gaining access and silencing the transmitter. Mission accomplished – or so we thought...

As we got into our vehicles to leave the scene, I turned the key in the ignition, only to see Col. Peterson flagging us down again – a second ELT was going off at the airport. It was a freak occurrence, a one in a million shot.

After some sniffing around with a handheld scanner, we finally located it inside of a repair shop, lying out on a bench. Old soldering had failed and the battery had triggered the unit to start transmitting. Two ELT's successfully silenced in one night.

Mission accomplished, and a night well spent. Well, that's the life of a ground-pounder

2Lt Tyler Jensen



Squadron Helps at American Legion Post #127 Crab Feed

In our continuing effort to provide services and support to community organizations, Cadets and Senior Members from the Northshore Squadron helped the American Legion Post #127 in Bothell during their annual Crab Feed dinner earlier this spring.

In addition, our Color Guard team presented the colors. Our participation was also to show appreciation for Post #127's generous financial contributions to our Color Guard program.

By all accounts, the event was a tremendous success. One of our cadets commented, "If you like crab, you would have had a great time".

It was great to see our members actually wear aprons, be willing to do whatever they needed in order to help and best of all with no complaints.

We are always looking for opportunities to help the community. If you know of an organization that is in need of Color Guard, security or other services that we can provide, contact Capt Barbara Jensen.



Jensen Takes Over as Squadron Cadet Commander

The Northshore squadron received a new Cadet Commander when Capt Daniel Rice handed over his command to 2Lt Tyler Jensen during a formal ceremony this winter.

"We just can't say enough about the job that Capt Rice did for the squadron over the past year", said Squadron Commander LtCol Karen Walter. She continued, "Dan provided good leadership and the squadron is much stronger today than when he took over".

Capt Rice is a Senior at Kings High School this year and looking forward to attending college in the fall.

Replacing Rice is 2Lt Tyler Jensen. He has been a CAP Cadet and Northshore Squadron member since October of 2003 and is excited about leading the Squadron.



New Cadet Commander 2Lt Tyler Jensen and Former Commander Capt Daniel Rice

Jensen has been very active in Color Guard starting in 2004. After winning the Wing Championship, his team were runners up in Las Vegas at the Regional competition. He soon was promoted to Color Guard Commander and has presented the colors at more than 20 public events including an NFL Football game in front of 67,000 fans and a national television audience.

Jensen's passion is now in the area of Emergency Services and Search & Rescue. He is a Ground Team Leader and has numerous certifications from the American Red Cross and WA Department of Transportation.

In April 2006, Jensen received The Outstanding NCO of the Year award from WA Wing. We are all looking forward to what the future brings with 2Lt Jensen now at the helm.

Microsoft (Cont.)

they need to build self confidence and develop a passion.

He is visibly moved when telling stories of how many young people around the country have used Microsoft's Flight products to improve their lives.

Microsoft has also been a strong supporter of Aviation High School and a number of other youth-based, flight related organizations. It only made sense that the Civil Air Patrol be added to that list.

The entire squadron arrived at the Microsoft Offices on a cold and rainy Tuesday evening and were greeted by Hal Bryan and Mike Lambert. Both were outstanding hosts, and were very comfortable in dealing with our cadets. As they led us on a tour of their offices, we found out that in addition to being software designers, they both were private



different aircraft including mock Search and Rescue missions. The collective response from our cadets was, "This is so cool".

After the tour and gaming center, it was back to CAP business as the squadron gathered in the large cafeteria for "Closing Formation". We formally recognized and

thanked Microsoft's Shawn Firminger as well as Hal Bryan and Mike Lambert for taking the time with our cadets. To our delight, they had yet one more surprise in store for us. As a thank you to CAP, they handed out to each cadet a free version of Flight Simulator.

Needless to say, it was a wonderful experience for our Cadets and Senior Members to interact with the very people who write the code and design



pilots and passionate about flying.

After providing us with a formal and fun presentation of the Flight Simulator products, they had a surprise for us. They led our group to the back of their studio where they have 30 gaming stations.

Each gaming station included a high speed computer, headsets and joy stick and of course loaded with the latest version of Flight Simulator products. For "gamers", this had to be nirvana as each station also included a Microsoft X-Box. Bryan and Lambert helped the cadets fly many

the flight software.

"We think it is important for CAP to reach out to the business community. To expose our cadets to the business world and also having the opportunity to share our world with business is a valuable experience for all" commented 2Lt Kris Jensen, Northshore's PAO and initiator of this event.

Since this tour, there has been some interest from CAP in using Flight Simulator more as a flight teaching tool. Microsoft has also shown interest in consulting with CAP as they consider adding

MS Flight Simulator GM, Sean Firminger



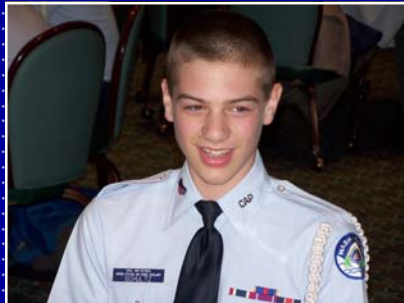
Northshore Wins Wing Cadet Competition (cont.)

COLOR GUARD

2006 NORTHSHORE COLOR GUARD TEAM



c/SMSgt Molly Heath
Team Commander



c/SrA Cyle Schultz



c/AIC Jeff Powers

On behalf of the Northshore Color Guard team, CAPtions would like to thank everyone from Washington Wing who helped organize and judge this valuable event. We also would like to thank all of the parents involved for the many hours and tanks of gas it took to shuttle their cadets to and from the seemingly endless number of practice sessions.

Finally, behind every champion, there always is a tremendous support staff that helped them succeed. A big thank you goes out to this group of dedicated volunteers who gave up many of their evenings and weekends dedicated to helping our cadets be the best they can be.

The team's Cadet Trainers were Lieutenant's Simon Briant and Tyler Jensen, both members of a previous wing championship Color Guard team. The Senior Support Advisor was 2Lt Curt Powers. Color Guard Escort were 1Lt Linda Garross and SM Donna Blades, 1Lt Kris Jensen and 1Lt Kevin Warren served as Escort/Support Staff. A final and most sincere recognition goes to the team Advisor Capt Barbara Jensen who provided outstanding leadership throughout the entire process.

There was also help from outside of CAP. This year, the American Legion Post #118 in Bothell, WA provided the team with much needed financial support and they even adopted them as "Their Team". When news of the win reached the Post, the members erupted in applause. "There is simply no way we could have done this without the American Legion's generous support, they are awesome people" said Captain Barbara Jensen.

"CAP nurtures our leaders of the future", said LtCol Karen Walter, Northshore Squadron Commander. "Each and every cadet on this year's team are a wonderful example of what young people can do when they work together on achieving a goal, we are very proud of them".

Next up for the team is to represent the WA Wing at the Regional competition held this year in Vancouver, WA. Results of this event will be covered in the next issue of CAPtions but regardless of the outcome, to our squadron, they are certainly champions through and through.

Next year's competition will be here before you know it. 2007 Color Guard Team try-outs are scheduled for Fall of 2006. We are raising the bar so be prepared!

COLOR GUARD SUPPORT STAFF- *The Unsung Hero's*

SUPPORT



Capt Barbara Jensen
Color Guard Advisor



2Lt Curt Powers
Senior Support Staff



c/2Lt Tyler Jensen
Cadet Trainer



c/2Lt Simon Briant
Cadet Trainer



CONGRATULATIONS!



c/Amn Travis Blades



c/AIC Molly Houghton



2006 Wing Competition Participants



Donna Blades Escort/Support Staff



ILt Kris Jensen Escort/Support Staff



ILt Linda Garross Color Guard Escort



MILE RUN



INSPECTION



STANDARD DRILL



OUTDOOR



INDOOR



QUIZ BOWL

CAP Hitches a Ride To Remember in a KC-135



It is 0400 and the insects are still asleep but we are up and headed for our mission briefing at Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, WA.

Air Force Capt Alton White, a former CAP Spaatz Cadet invited a group of CAP Cadets and Senior Members from the Washington Wing to join his crew on a refueling mission.

After the briefing, we approached the massive KC-135 tanker and stood in awe, wondering how this large aircraft could even get off the ground.

The crew was extremely helpful as we boarded. Capt White appeared, thanked us for joining he and his crew and asked Northshore Cadet Simon Briant if he would join him in the cockpit. The look on Cadet Briant's face provided the response Capt White was looking for and together they made their way forward to prepare for takeoff.

The sound of the engines provided us with a sense of what was to come. Before we knew it, we were rolling

down the runway. In the cockpit, the co-Pilot called out "100 knots- V1- Rotate" and we were airborne. This was no commercial airliner as the power of the engines was something many of us had never experienced before.

As we proceeded to our cruising altitude, the crew showed us around the flying Gas Station eventually ending at the business end of the jet, the "Boom Operators Pod". This is where the Boom Operator flies the refueling boom to connect with an aircraft in need of fuel.

Northshore Cadet 2Lt Tyler Jensen was first to go into the Pod. The operator has to lay down on their stomach and work the joystick controls to guide the boom to its destination. The external shield was down at the time Cadet Jensen crawled into the space as the crew member

walked him through how the controls work. When he got to the button that raised the external shield, the crew member said "Go ahead and push it".



(L to R) SM/Capt Barbara Jensen and Cadets Molly Heath, Tyler Jensen and Simon Briant pose in front of the KC-135 at Fairchild AFB, Spokane, WA



KC-135 Cockpit



KC-135 Boom Pod



Jensen complied and watched as sunlight started to come into the Pod. Then suddenly, as if out of nowhere, a fully loaded F-15 Strike Eagle appeared right underneath the boom, I am quite sure the entire crew could hear Jensen's comment, "Woa, F-15!"

As the Boom Operator traded places with Cadet Jensen, we were all amazed at his ability to fly the boom into position. We were also struck as to how much effect the boom actually had on the aerodynamics of the aircraft.

After refueling the F-15, the Operator demonstrated the capabilities of the Boom by flying it up and down and side to side. With each movement, Captain White had to make minor and sometimes major adjustments to trim and thrust in order to maintain our altitude and course. It was obvious that piloting a KC-135 was no easy task and requires tremendous skill.



The F-15's then flew alongside the tanker to salute and wave to our CAP members. It must have looked pretty funny from their perspective seeing many faces crammed into the small windows all smiling and waving back.

They were so close, you could see the Pilot with his oxygen mask and sun visor down and of course the missiles underneath the wing were hard to miss.

The mission had us fly hundreds of miles from Spokane Washington, west, over the pacific ocean and back again.

What a wonderful experience it was to see an Air Force Crew so dedicated and skillful complete their tasks with precision, especially with their guests constantly asking questions and exploring the aircraft.

Thanks and appreciation go out to Captain White and his crew and of course the United States Air Force for making this possible.

SM/1Lt Kris Jensen

KC-135 Stratotanker



Description

Role	Mid-air refueling	
Crew	4, pilot, copilot, navigator, boom operator	

Dimensions

Length	136 ft 3 in	41.53 m
Wingspan	130 ft 10 in	39.88 m
Height	41 ft 8 in	12.70 m
Wing area	2,433 ft ²	226 m ²

Weights

Empty	98,466 lb	44,663 kg
Loaded	297,000 lb	134,700 kg
Maximum take-off	316,000 lb	143,300 kg

Power plant

Engines	(R/T) - Four CFM International CFM-56 turbofan engines; (E) - Four Pratt & Whitney TF-33-PW-102 turbofan engines	
Thrust	(R) - 21,634 lbf (E) - 18,000 lbf	(R) - 96 kN (E) - 80 kN

Performance

Maximum speed	580 mph	933 km/h
Combat range	3,450 mi	5,550 km
Ferry range	9,200 mi	14,800 km
Service ceiling	50,000 ft	15,200 m
Rate of climb	4,900 ft/min	1,490 m/min

CIVIL AIR PATROL



Check us out on the web
<http://northshore.wawg.cap.gov>

Northshore Shines at Spring Conference

Northshore Composite Squadron was well represented at the WA Wing Spring Conference in Bellingham this year receiving a number of individual awards.

Capt Dan Rice received the Air Force Association Cadet Officer of the Year award for outstanding squadron leadership and other activities.

2Lt Tyler Jensen was honored as the WA Wing, NCO Cadet of the year. This honored his efforts as an ES Ground Team member, earning numerous certifications and recent leadership in serving as the new Cadet Commander for Northshore. It is quite impressive to have two cadets receive the top honors in the wing from one Squadron. Congratulations to both Dan and Tyler for a job well done!

Three Senior Members were also recognized with **2Lt Curt Powers** receiving the Communication Officer of the Year award for his tireless efforts in coordinating radio certification and many other activities.

1Lt Kris Jensen was honored as the Outstanding Public Affairs Officer of the year. This award recognized his efforts in connecting CAP with the community by publishing articles on squadron activities in local newspapers as well as the CAP National News.

Capt Barbara Jensen received the prestigious Commander's Commendation for Outstanding Duty Performance. This was well deserved as Capt Jensen has gone far and beyond her call of duty supporting the squadron and Wing. As a Registered Nurse, Jensen has taught First Aid and CPR courses, and served as the Color Guard Advisor and Escort resulting in two Wing Championships.

*While CAPtions applauds all of the award winners, we wish to recognize the many others in the Northshore Squadron who work hard and put in long hours. These awards really represent all Northshore Cadets and Senior Members who give of themselves to make CAP the best experience possible, **Thank you all!***



Capt Dan Rice received the Air Force Assn Cadet of the Year Award

Spring Conference Awards



C/2Lt Tyler Jensen,
Outstanding NCO of the Year



2Lt Curt Powers,
Outstanding Communications
Officer



1Lt Kris Jensen,
Outstanding Public Affairs Officer



Capt Barbara Jensen,
Commander's Commendation for
Outstanding Duty Performance



Picture of the Month:

Northshore Color Guard having fun at the Wing Competition

CAPtions Staff

CAPtions Editor: 1Lt Kris Jensen
 Squadron Commander.: Lt Col Karen Walter
 Cadet Commander: 1Lt Tyler Jensen